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(*FARCE.*)

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Uncle Ethan.

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—TO WHICH IS ADDED—

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1892

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

ISHMIAL BUSHONG - -	*Troubled with a mother in-law.*
ETHAN BRADSHAW -	*The Uncle from the West.*
REV. ISAAC TUFNELL - -	*A spiritual adviser.*
JOHN GOODNOW - - - - - - - -	
FANNY BUSHONG - - - -	*Ishmial's wife.*
MRS. ELIZABETH DIMMICK - -	*The mother-in law.*
JANE - - - - - - - -	*Servant.*

—x—

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Place anywhere.

—x—

COSTUME—Modern.

—x—

TIME—30 MINUTES

—x—

TAGE DIRECTIONS.

R., means Right; L., Left; R. H., Right Hand; L. H., Left Hand; C., Centre; 2d E., Second Entrance; U. E., Upper Entrance; M. D., Middle Door; F., the Flat; D. F., Door in Flat; R. C., Right of Centre; L. C., Left of Centre.

R. C.	C.	L. C.	L.

*** The reader is supposed to be upon the stage facing the audience.

TMP92-008919

Uncle Ethan.

SCENE I.—The sitting room of Mr. Bushong. Mrs. Fanny Bushong *discovered as curtain rises.*

Fanny. I wonder who it was that rang, I am so glad Ishmial was here to go to the door, for I am sure I hate peddlers. Ma's not down yet, I hope the bell did not disturb her. If it did—(*shrugs shoulders*) I really must get Jane to muffle it.

Enter, Ishmial Bushong.

Well dear, who was it?

Ishmial. The postman. He brought me a letter, (*looks at it*) it's from Idaho; then it's from Uncle Ethan. (*opens letter—reads*) Well, I delare! he's going to make us a visit.

Fan. I am so glad! When is he coming?

Ish. What day of the month is this?

Fan. The 14th.

Ish. And what time is it now?

Fan. About half-past ten.

Ish. Then he will be here very shortly. This letter was delayed.

Fan. Bless his kind old heart, I feel as if I already knew him.

Ish. Bless him indeed. How well I remember his reply to my letter; when things looked so dark. I asked him if he thought there was a chance for architects out West, and told him how hard it was to gain a footing here. This is what he wrote: "Dear Ish., I know it will pay to stay East. Keep at it and hustle. Inclosed you will find a little something to give you confidence, while you are pegging away. Give my love to the little woman, who took you for better or worse, and tell her I honor her for knowing a true man when she saw him. I will come East and see you soon.

My advise is, keep at it. Your Uncle, Ethan Bradshaw." The "little something" was a draft for seven hundred dollars. What a God send it seemed.

Fan. It did indeed. I should like to put him in the blue room while he stays.

Ish. Yes, indeed. 'Tis the pleasantest in the house.

Fan. But mother has signified her intention of moving in there to-morrow, so I suppose we must let it drop.

Ish. I suppose so.

Fan. I hope mamma will like him.

Ish. Of course she will. That is, I hope so. Had I known of this, I would have been measured for a new suit.

Enter, MRS. DIMMICK, L.

Mrs. Dimmick. What did I understand you to say, Mr. Bushong? A new suit, the very idea. How can you, Mr. Bushong, disregard economy in such a reckless manner, indeed, you had one six months ago. A new suit. Preposterous!

Ish. But madam!

Mrs. D. Hold! Mr. Bushong, I will not be madamed, neither will I be buttered. The least you can do is to listen respectfully. The smallest amends you can make, is to abstain from ordering the suit, and I trust you will do so.

Fan. But mother, Ishmial's uncle, Uncle Ethan Bradshaw, who was so kind to us when we so much needed assistance, is coming to visit us.

Mrs. D. Preposterous. How can you, Mr. Bushong have so little feeling for your wife, to say nothing of your gratitude for me.

Ish. (*aside*) Gratitude!

Mrs. D. As to let this Westerner quarter himself upon you.

Ish. But—

Mrs. D. I tell you again, I will not be buttered. I dare say he is a wild and untutord savage. Ethan Bradshaw; perhaps he had something to do with naming you, Ishmial. Bah!

Ish. He is my Uncle, and—

Mrs. D. Don't interupt, sir; you ought to be ashamed of the relationship.

Fan. Mother!

Mrs. D. Yes, he had. I presume *his uncle* eats with

his knife. Probably he will smoke a stumpy clay pipe in the parlor. I've no doubt he belongs to the Farmer's Alliance.

Ish. (*aside*) By Jove, I'll do it.

Fan. But mother, this is the Uncle who sent us seven hundred dollars, when all our appeals to you were useless.

Ish. (*aside*) You wasn't living with us then.

Mrs. D. And now I suppose he intends to take it out in board.

Ish. I don't see why that isn't all right. (*aside*) You did nothing for us and you'r taking it out in board.

Mrs. D. He doesn't see why it isn't all right! Have you no love for your wife, no veneration for me? I have invited the Rev. Isaac Tufnell here for a short visit. I don't suppose even you would have me break my word to that Reverend gentleman.

Ish. (*aside*) Wouldn't I though, but I suppose it won't do.

Mrs. D. He also will be here to day.

Ish. Well I'll go and meet Uncle Ethan now.

Mrs. D. I hope you will endeavor to impress upon this Uncle that your family consists of two ladies, one domestic and a—bear. Above all things, don't order that suit. Preposterous.

Ish. (*aside*) That settles it, I will do it. (*exit*, R.

Mrs. D. And in a short time I shall be permitted to say with Shakespear or somebody else. "Chaos is come again." Scandalous! Fanny, I should do right to disown you, for having the impudence to marry a man so different from my ideal. Shameful! New suit! Uncle from the West! Ethan! Ishmial! Preposterous! (*exit*, L.

Fan. Dear me, what a temper mother has. I believe she will drive me distracted. Ishmial and I were so happy and then she came to live with us, and she is so peculiar that I'm afraid she will make it uncomfortable for Ishmial's Uncle, and I shall be so mortified and—O! dear, O! dear.

(*exit*, L., *sobbing*

Enter, JANE, *sets table.*

Jane. There's a dear lovely mistress for you! I declare it's a shame to worry her so. She's a precious one. Is the old one! With her talk, and her worry, and wear and tear,

and Reverend Isaac and home mission and heathen. Heathen, she is the biggest heathen I ever saw. O! I'd like to—And there's that poor dear Mr. Bushong that's needed a new coat a month, and every time he speaks of it, there's the widow. (*eats sugar*) An antidote for thinking of her, and last Friday, if she didn't talk to me about the impropriety of my walking out with Mr. Briggs. My Briggs, (*looks at ring on her finger*) but I gave her as good as she sent, and I hope better. (*bell rings*) I suppose that's that Rev. Isaac Tufnell. He's a star. O! I'd like to get a chance at him. I delare! he is bringing a valise. I wish I had my way, he'd walk low Spanish, yes, and Chineese too. (*looks* R.) If he isn't coming this way! (*retires up stage*

Enter, REV. ISAAC TUFNELL, *looks around.*

Isaac. Truly this dwelling is not of the spirit, but of the flesh. Vanity! vanity!

Jane. A-hem.

Isaac. (*startled*) Hum! Verily my good girl, I did not see you. (*aside*) Truly a fair damsel.

Jane. My service to you, sir! (*starts to go*

Isaac. In the words of the poet, 'er I should say maker of doggerel, "Where are you going my pretty maid."

Jane. Sir!

Isaac. Really, my dear, I can't retract, you are pretty, even handsome. Come here my dear. If you will carry my card to Mrs. Dimmick, I'll put a dime into the foreign mission box for you next Sunday. (*gives her card*

Jane. Mr. Tufnell!

Isaac. Well, my dear.

Jane. I am very much interested in the heathen, and I'll tell you what I'll do, I will contribute five dollars.

Isaac. Will you though, will you? (*shows book*) Sign here. You are not handsome, you are absolutely lovely.

Jane. That is, I will give it on one condition, that you and Mrs. Dimmick volunteer as missionaries. (*aside*) Hard on the heathen. (*exit*, L.

Isaac. What a mistake I made. The girl is positively plain. What would dear sister Dimmick say. Here's the jade back.

Re-enter, JANE, L.

What is it hussy?

Jane. She'll see you in her room, gorgan. (ISAAC *exit*,

provoked) "Where are you going my pretty youth." Ha! ha! ha! the fright.

Enter, FANNY, 2 E.

Fan. Jane, my dear, is everything ready for Mr. Bushong's Uncle.

Jane. Yes'm.

Fan. You are a good girl Jane. He ought to be here by this time.

Enter, ISHMIAL, R.

Ish. Uncle will be here very soon.

Jane. (*aside*) I've gone and done it. (*aloud*) That's good. We will have dinner in— *pauses*

Ish. Five minutes, Jane.

Enter, MRS. DIMMICK, L.

Mrs. D. Well, sir! has the aboriginee arrived.

Fan. Uncle Ethan will be here directly.

Bell rings violently, JANE *crosses stage as if to attend door.*

Mrs. D. Your relative, I presume, Mr. Bushong. Fanny you will send dinner to Mr. Tufnell in his room. I could not insult a man of his fine sensibilities, by bringing him to the table with a man who drinks tea from his saucer, as your relative in all probability will.

Ish. (*aside*) By George! I didn's tell Uncle that.

(JANE *arranges table*

Ethan. (*outside*) Darn you, that's enough. Go ahead an' arrest; I don't care two whoops fur yer whole police force.

Enter, ETHAN BRADSHAW, R., *throws down carpet bag.*

Hello! Ishmial, go out an' lick that thar driver fur me, will yer. He says he's goin' ter have me arrested, wants more fare. (*exit*, ISHMIAL, R.) Not ef I knows it, I don't keer an oyster fur the perlice.

(*pulls out bowie knife and then returns it to it's sheath*

Re-enter, ISHMIAL, R.

I say, Ishmial, introduce me.

Ish. Fanny dear, (*she advances*) Uncle, this is my little wife who will bid you welcome as heartily as I.

Fan. Yes, I am sure it would ill befit us not to be very glad indeed to have you with us; you, to whom we are so grateful!

Ethan. Pshaw! 'twant nothin' at all. Glad ter hav' the chance, proud to know yer mum. (*aside*) Gosh! I'd kiss her ef I wan't afraid other parties might be jealous. (*aloud*) I say, Ishmial, who *is* the old party?

Mrs. D. Outrageous.

Ish. This is Fanny's mother, Mrs. Dimmick. Mrs. Dimmick my Uncle Ethan. (MRS. DIMMICK *bows coldly*

Ethan. Glad ter see yer. Husband livin'?

Mrs. D. No sir!

Ethan. Dead, eh? Well, yer seemed to bear up tolerble, but ye don't look seventy.

Mrs. D. I am forty, sir!

Ethan. Wal! wal! Husband's name Dimmick too?

Mrs. D. Of course.

Ethan. Been dead long?

Mrs. D. Twenty-six years.

Ethan. I say Ishmial, how old have people got to be when they marry here. Misses Dimmick's wuz a widder afor' she wuz fifteen.

Mrs. D. Good heavens!

Ethan. Never mind mum, lying ain't so bad as murder.

Fan. Dinner is ready.

Ethan. That's good. I'm as hungry as a wolf.

They draw up to the table, ETHAN *eats contrary to all rules of etiquette, drinks tea from cup.* ISHMIAL *signals him and he uses saucer.*

This soup is bully. O! say, Ishmial, I was telling you about that hanging scrape over the line in Montana. Ever see a hanging Misses Dimmick?

Mrs. D. Horrors! (*leaves table, exit,* L.

ISHMIAL *and* ETHAN *shake hands unobserved.* ETHAN *lights pipe.* FANNY *retires* L.

Ethan. Ishmial, I ought to be kicked—but the old lady is a terror.

Ish. The end justifies the means. Let's go out for a walk.

(*exit,* ISHMIAL *and* ETHAN, R., JANE *clears off table*

Enter, FANNY *and* MRS. DIMMICK, L.

Mrs. D. You see it is exactly as I told you. Bah!

Enter, ETHAN, R.

Ethan. I say, there's the best dancing bear down the street I ever see. The Italian's just goin' to rasle with him. Come along Misses Dimmick, or you'll lose the fun.

(*exit*, R.

Mrs. D. I cannot say enough, Fanny, against your husband for bringing this creature here.

Enter, ETHAN, R.

Ethan. Hang it! Misses Dimmick, the bear has gone and now I have got nothin' to do but cultivate your acquaintance, which I will proceed to do.

Mrs. D. You may cultivate what ever you please, but you will never have my presence to do it in. (*aside.* The Rev. Isaac is good at managing heathen, I will let him try it on this specimen. (*exit*, I.

Ethan. Wonder what she got mad at. What's this coming.

Enter, REV. ISAAC, L.

Isaac. My dear sir! I take it that you are Mr. Bradshaw. I would like to interest you in my new scheme for educating and clothing the heathen.

Enter, MRS. DIMMICK, *who makes jesture of approval of* ISAAC'S *speech and disgust of* ETHAN.

They are in a most—

Ethan. See here, you sermon distillery, I don't care two whoops fur the heathen, an' what's more, you have got more than enough poor people at home that need your money.

Isaac. My friend, I fear you are an ungodly man.

Enter, ISHMIAL, R.

Ay in my holy indignation I pronounce you a son of Belzebal, even the devil.

Ish. See here my friend, this has gone far enough. I

don't let any man talk like that in my house. I give you just a quarter of an hour to leave this house.

Mrs. D. Yes, Mr. Bushong, I will trouble you to call a cab. I have decided to leave your house. A man who is the nephew of that savage, is not fit to be called my son-in-law.

Ish. But—

Mrs. D. Silence sir!

Isaac. Sister Dimmick, we will go together.

Mrs. D. Isaac.

Isaac. Elizibeth. (*she takes his arm and exit*, R.

Ethen. Ishmial, ain't it about time I changed these togs. (*exit*, L.

Enter, JANE.

Jane. Mr. Goodnow wishes to see you, sir!

Ish. Show him up. (JANE *goes and returns with* MR. GOODNOW) Good afternoon Mr. Goodnow.

Good. Good afternoon. Hope I don't intrude. I heard that Congressman-elect Bradshaw was here, and so knowing him well, I called.

Ish. My Uncle, Ethan Bradshaw is here, but as to Congress, I think you are mistaken.

Enter, ETHAN, *greatly changed.*

Ethan. O! sure, he is quite right, I had forgotten to tell you of my good fortune. John, old playfellow, how are you? Fanny, you seem surprised. My former self was only a ruse for what perhaps you may guess. I suppose it was wrong, but I think the end justifies the means.

CURTAIN.

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A Farce-Comedy in 4 acts. 4 male, 2 female characters. An ocean trip from San Francisco to New York causes an immense amount of fun.

—x—

COSTUMES—MODERN.

—x—

TIME OF PLAYING—TWO HOURS.

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SYNOPSIS.

ACT I.—Scene 1st. Cabin of the ocean steamer Mary June—Passengers coming on board—Peter and Peleg meet—Isabel and Captain—Peleg and his Billow—a patent pincushion—Isabel's trouble—"Let's be gay and happy still"—Peter gives his first experience on board of a ship—"I never vas so sick in mine life"—Kate, Isabel and the Captain—Peleg and Kate—Peleg kisses the cook—how she accepted his advances—"Mine Got in Himmel, I finds me somedings in mine room"—Hanibal, the darkey—a general ruption—"Hi golly! see 'em."

ACT II.—Scene 1st, Isabel and the Captain—Peleg afraid he is in the way—it reminds him of the time he went sparking Sall—Kate and Peleg—Hanibal comes in—disgust of Peleg—"dere nefer was a posey flower mitoudt stickers"—Peleg and Peter sea sick—Hanibal interrupts love scene between Peleg and Kate.

ACT III.—Scene 1st. Hanibal and Peter—"Oh! father, you signed my death warrant when you signed your will"—Peter relates his courting experience—Peleg in love—Peter's advice to the Captain—Peleg jealous of Peter.

ACT IV.—Isabel tells the Captain the conditions of her father's will—The Captain's declaration—"I must obey my father!"—The quarrel between Peter and Peleg, in which Hanibal appears—"Glory mit der stars und stripes and the American eagle—and de cullud population"—Kate and the Captain—Kate tells a secret—Captain's despair—Kate endeavors to make Peleg propose, in which she succeeds as Hanibal appears—Peter's opinion of mudder-by-laws—Isabelle tells the Captain she is to marry Peter Polstine—Peter—"Dot vas me"—the despair of Isabelle when she discovers who Peter is—Peter refuses to marry Isabelle, or my wife's name will be Katrina—mine little Shermany gal—Isabelle accepts the Captain—Kate and Peleg—matrimony—a double wedding when the Mary Jane reaches port.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

Gyp, the Heiress;

OR,

The Dead Witness.

A Drama in 4 acts by Len Ware, for 5 male and 4 female characters.

The cast contains a good villain, a soubrette, a chinaman; a "deown East" aunt, and an insurance agent make up the rest.

Costumes to suit characters.

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

ACT I.—Drawing-room of Oscar Royalton, Silver City, Nevada.

Aunt Rachel—Oscars Aunt, from down East—Hezekiah Hopeful, a tramp—"No mustach near me"—Gyp—a-b-c—Thornton the Villain—A sacred trust—Royalton depart for the East—Clara and Thornton—He demands the papers—"I'll guard them with my life—Supposed murder of Clara and Hezekiah—"Heavens! I'm a murderer—I'll burn the house and conceal my crime—Exciting fire scene.

ACT II.—Hop Sing's Laundry.

Takemquick—A live Insurance man—Rachel and Gyp—Hop Sing and Rachel—The fight—Takemquick on hand—Sister Carmeta reveals a secret to Gyp and Rachel—Thornton's demand of Hop Sing, his accomplice—The refusal—An attempt to murder Hop Sing—The Dead Witness appears.

ACT III.—Thornton's Law Office.

Hezekiah the tramp, secures a position in Thornton's office—Takemquick—Hezekiah reveals to Gyp who her enemy is—"Trust me I'll get your fortune for you"—Hezekiah's novel—Sister Carmeta—"I'm here to avenge the death of Clara Royalton"—The shot—I am the Dead Witness—"A colt revolver"—Oscar disguised—A game of cards—"Discovered"—Oath of vengeance—Hezekiah holds both bowers.

ACT IV.—Same Scene as Act III.

Love scene between Hezekiah and Rachel—Proposal—Two notes—Thornton shot by Hop Sing—Oscar in disguise—Clara is the Dead Witness, who escaped death in the burning house—Oscar throws off disguise and introduces Gyp as his wife—Death of Thornton—Devils toast—Hezekiah presents papers to prove Gyp's inheritance and is ready for matrimony—Aunt Rachel finally surrenders and all are happy.

Time of playing 1 hour and 40 minutes. Price 25 Cents.

NUGGET NELL;

—OR,—

Claim Ninety-six.

A Border Drama in 5 acts, for 8 male and 5 female characters. This drama is replete with startling situations and thrilling incidents.

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

ACT I.—The Land of Gold.

Scene I.—Toomstone, a mining town in California. Jerry Mack's saloon. Guy Lester, king of counterfeitors. Nugget Nell. The toast. Claim "96". The meanest man. A plan to steal Charley Grey's dust. Arrival of Major Dolittle, from Kentuck. Nell and the Major. A love scene, which ends in "gin and peppermint."

Scene II.—Charley Grey and Mack. Ebony, the boot black. Ebony's advice. Guy Lester, the octoroon. Toomstone quiet. "Slaves, runaway niggers." Ebony keeps his eyes open.

Scene III.—Sacramento Joe and Nugget Nell. Nell's history. The little black book. Nell locks Sacramento Joe in the cellar. Bell and Mack. Guy discovers Mack's secret. "Nigger whipper, slave driver." The quarrel. Sacramento Joe. "Don't pull boys, I've got the drop on ye, and I don't give a cuss."

ACT II.—Home of Bell Mack.

Scene I.—Nell's advice. Ebony tells Nell of the raid to be made on Charley Grey's cabin. "Nugget Nell will be on deck to-night." "I golly, dis chile will be dar' too."

Scene II.—Mack's bad luck. A compact of crime sealed. Nugget Nell on the war-path. Ebony's fright, "Now I—I—lay me down."

Scene III.—Charley Grey's cabin. Mack and Guy searching for the gold dust. Timely arrival of Nell and Ebony. "Throw up your hands or you are dead men." Escape of the robbers. Sacramento Joe, "I don't care a cuss."

ACT III.—Arthur Brandon's Home.

Scene I.—The lost child. A living trouble. Bessie Grey deposits the gold dust in Mr. Brandon's safe. Guy Lester interviews Mr. Brandon in regards to the Grey's gold.

Scene II.—Peterson, the apple sass man from Vermont, in search of a meal. Ebony and Peterson. Snubbed by Bessie. "Squashed, tetotally squashed."

Scene III.—Mack and Guy congratulate themselves on their escaping Nell's bullet. "Charley Grey's wife will run Toomstone. Peterson and his four barrels of apple sass. "Polly Ann Spriggins." Peterson proposes to Nugget Nell. The game of cards. Bessie Grey interrupts the game. The way to Vermont. The wife beater. Mack faces Nugget Nell's rifle the second time.

Scene IV.—Peterson, "a thin pair of pants and a light heart." Murder of Sacramento Joe. Nugget Nell on the war path.

Scene V.—The safe robbery and murder of Mrs. Brandon. Nugget Nell arrives on the scene.

ACT IV.—Gold Dust Saloon.

Scene I.—Ebony and Nell. Arrest of Nugget Nell for the murder of Mrs. Brandon. "I'm not guilty."

Scene II.—Major Dolittle and Ebony. Jennie, the octoroon, a runaway slave, meets her former master. The slave brand. "I could kill you."

Scene III.—Bells grief at the arrest of Nugget Nell; Ebony's attempt to comfort her. "I golly, dis chile's eyes am leakin'."

ACT V.—Street.

Scene I.—Mack and Guy break open the jail and escape with Nugget Nell, the prisoner, to the mountain. Major Dolittle and Ebony arrange a plan to rescue Nugget Nell. Guy's secret discovered.

Scene II.—Jennie tells Guy of her meeting Major Dolittle, "that cursed mark." Jennie and Nell in the cave. The quarrel, Jennie's murderous attempt to kill Nell. Mack interferes. The secret of the octoroons disclosed. Jennie stabs Mack. Guy and Jennie escape. Ebony and Major Dolittle rescue Nugget Nell. Mack reveals to Nell who her parents are.

Scene III.—Return of Nell, Ebony and Major Dolittle, to Toomstone. News of Mack's death. Charley Grey regains his stolen gold. Nell to return East with her father. Ebony can't be left behind to be hoo-dooed.

Clubs wanting a good play should certainly try Nugget Nell. Price 25 Cents.

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239	Scale with Sharps and Flats	3	2
221	Solon Shingle	14	2
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166	A Texan Mother-in-Law	4	6
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80	Alarmingly Suspicious	4	3
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31	A Pet of the Public	4	2
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22	Captain Smith	3	3
84	Cheek Will Win	3	0
287	Cousin Josiah	1	1
225	Cupids Capers	4	4
249	Double Election	9	1
49	Der Two Surprises	1	1
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19	Did Dream it	4	3
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74	How to Tame M-in-Law	4	2
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